

**POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**TUESDAY MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 31, 2021**

1. At 9:00 a.m., Commissioner Pope declared the Tuesday meeting of the Polk County Board of Commissioners in session and led the Board and attending audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Gordon and Commissioner Mordhorst were present.

2. **MINUTES:** **COMMISSIONER MORDHORST MOVED, COMMISSIONER GORDON SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 24, 2021**

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**3. COVID UPDATE**

Jacqui Umstead, Public Health Administrator, reviewed the handout that she provided the Board with the COVID case rates for Oregon and Polk County. Ms. Umstead stated that a third booster shot for the immunocompromised should be approved by the middle of September. The Johnson & Johnson COVID vaccine is in studies no to see if it will require a booster. Testing is trending up again in Polk County due to the surge in cases. 23% of cases were traced to a known source. Dallas Retirement Village has a total of 39 cases and Capitol Manor has 6 cases.

**4. SOUTHWEST POLK FIRE**

Fred Hertel, Southwest Polk Fire Chief sent a letter to the Board requesting a letter of support from them for his application for ambulance licensure in Polk County. Mr. Hertel provided the Board with an annual report for 2020 and reviewed that. He provided maps of the SW Polk Fire District as well as statistics on how long a typical response time is. Todd Brumfield, Dallas Fire Chief also appeared and testified in opposition of the support letter from the Board stating that because SW Polk Fire doesn't have an assigned service area (ASA), that it would not be a legal action due to the requirement that all Polk County ambulances have an assigned ASA. Mr. Smith, County Counsel, explained that you have to have a licensed ambulance before you can be assigned an ASA. The Board discussed the matter and came to the conclusion that they all work for the citizens of Polk County and that faster and more efficient response times to an accident or fire would be a benefit to the county.

**BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD AGREED TO PROVIDE A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO SW POLK FIRE FOR LICENSURE OF THEIR AMBULANCE.**

**5. RECLASSIFICATION IN PUBLIC WORKS**

Matt Hawkins, Administrative Services Director, requested a reclassification of two Bridge Carpenters I employees with Public Works. Specifically for Ken Dunagan and Dustin Thompson to be reclassified to Bridge Carpenters II. Both individuals have obtained their bridge crane operators license as well as the welding certification that is required. Should the reclassification be approved it would become effective on September 1, 2020. The fiscal impact on the budget would be approximately \$6,000 including PERS contributions should it be for a 12 month period.

**BY CONSENSUS, THE BOARD APPROVED THE RECLASSIFICATIONS AS PROPOSED.**

**6. NON-LISTED ITEMS** - (Pursuant to ORS 192.640, the Board of Commissioners considered the below identified non-listed items.)

Commissioner Pope adjourned the meeting at 10:18 a.m.